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HR 383

RELATING TO PAPER RECYCLING

Statement for
House Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection
Public Hearing 25 March 1977

by
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HR 383 deals with the problem of waste paper. This statement has been submitted to the Legislative Subcommittee of the Environmental Center of the University of Hawaii, but does not reflect an institutional position of the University.

This resolution recognizes the major contribution of governmental operations to the use and later discard of paper. It requests that the Department of Accounting and General Services institute a program for the collection and recycling of paper used in these operations.

The resolution correctly identifies forest products as the source of most of the paper, but not the jobs that might be eliminated by reduction in the manufacture of new paper. It fails to discuss the energy implications of substituting paper recycling for new paper manufacture. A decision to institute the recommended program should be based on all of these considerations.

It seems likely that, taking all of the considerations into account, the recommended recycling program will seem appropriate. We understand that steps are already being taken toward the institution of such a program.